

RESOLUTION NO. 34-12

RESOLUTION PLACING PARTIAL FIRE CLOSURE RESTRICTIONS ON  
NATRONA COUNTY, WYOMING, DUE TO EXTREME FIRE DANGER

WHEREAS, the Natrona County Fire Warden, after consultation with the Natrona County Fire District and the Casper Mountain Fire District, has recommended the partial closing of all areas within the boundaries of Natrona County, Wyoming, to open burning and other fire related activities on all private and county lands in Natrona County; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Land Management has imposed a fire closure resolution on BLM lands in Natrona County, Wyoming; and

WHEREAS, Natrona County is currently under drought conditions and fire danger is extremely high; and

WHEREAS, W.S. §§ 35-9-301 and 302 provide authority to the Board of County Commissioners in the State of Wyoming, if certain conditions are met, to "...close the area to any form of use by the public or may limit such use upon the recommendation of the county fire warden, including prohibition of any type of open fire...for such period of time as the board of county commissioners may deem necessary and proper;" and

WHEREAS, Natrona County has the inherent power and authority to regulate, limit and prohibit activities and uses of lands and premises owned by Natrona County, Wyoming, or in which Natrona County holds a legal interest; and

WHEREAS, based upon the recommendation of the Natrona County Fire Warden, and the information provided by him to this Board of County Commissioners, it is deemed necessary and proper to prohibit and limit the use of open fires and incendiary devices in Natrona County, Wyoming, for so long as high fire danger conditions continue to exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Natrona County, Wyoming, that effective commencing June 20, 2012, the open burning and other fire related activities on all private, county, and, to the extent not inconsistent with other closure orders, State lands in Natrona County, Wyoming, is hereby placed under restriction as follows:

1. Trash and refuse is to be burned only in containers provided with spark arrestors in a 10 foot cleared area between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. only in areas approved for this type of burning.
2. Wood fires must be contained in established fire rings.

3. No person shall throw or drop any lighted match, cigar, cigarette or other burning substance in combustible material (weeds or brush) or in the close proximity of combustible materials.
4. No smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area of least 3 feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material.
5. Discharging and detonation of fireworks is unlawful.
6. No acetylene cutting torches or electric arc welding except in areas devoid of all vegetation.
7. No propane or open fire branding activities except in corral areas in ranch complexes considered to be improved and cleared of all vegetation matter.
8. No fire or open flame allowed in unimproved areas.
9. No operation of chainsaws without a spark arrestor and either one 2 ½ lb. or larger dry chemical fire extinguisher or an adequate supply of water and a shovel in case of a fire. These fire tools may be kept with the operator's gas supply, but must be available in the immediate vicinity of the chainsaw operations.
10. Open fires are banned except in designated areas such as developed recreation sites, and home barbecues. No other open fires are allowed.
11. Until further notice there will be no more slash pile burning in Natrona County. Landowners on Casper Mountain with slash pile cleanup can take their slash to Tower Hill, which has been designated for receipt and disposal of slash piles.
12. Additional restrictions on allowed uses, in particular areas, may be imposed due to adverse weather, range and fuel conditions ( i.e. Red Flag Days), at the discretion and advice of the County Fire Warden, Natrona County Fire District and Casper Mountain Fire Districts

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the penalties provided in W.S. § 35-9-305 may be improved for violations of this resolution, to wit: A fine not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100) or imprisonment in the Natrona County Jail not to exceed thirty (30) days, or both such fine and imprisonment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Natrona County Fire Warden shall notify the Wyoming State Forester at 1100 W. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, Cheyenne, WY 82002, of the partial closure and restrictions provided in this resolution as well as any and all subsequent modifications hereto and/or rescission hereof.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this fire closure shall stay in effect until further notice from the Natrona County Fire Warden.

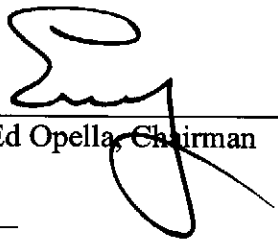
DATED this 19th day of June, 2012.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
NATRONA COUNTY, WYOMING

ATTEST:



  
Renea Vitto, County Clerk

  
Ed Opella, Chairman

My term of office expires  
January 5, 2015